- All hospitals to designate a special room for attending to fever cases in the Medical OPD (from 9.00 AM to 3.30).

- All accident and emergency departments within the hospitals will attend to fever cases reporting in their emergency after 3.30 PM. In case of reporting of a suspected serious dengue patient, the patient will be stabilized before transportation to a tertiary hospital. One hospital in each district is designated for the facility for testing a dengue beyond OPD hours.

- Availability of platelet concentrate round the clock in four Regional Blood Transfusion Centers under Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi and all the regional blood transfusion centers under the State Blood Transfusion Council will be ensured.

For controlling H1N1, Government of India has taken the following actions:

- Number of screening centers have been established unidentified health facilities, where patients are triaged (A, B, C, category) according to established guidelines. Mild cases, in category A are advised home care. Category B cases with persistent symptoms or those in high risk group but without complications are given drugs, not trusted and advised home care and follow up Only Category C patients, those showing early warning signs of deterioration or complications, are hospitalized.

* All Central Government hospitals in Delhi (5) and selected Delhi government hospitals (13) have been identified for managing swine flue. These are having dedicated isolation and critical care management facilities. 4 private hospitals have also been authorized for paid treatment. 5 private labs have also been empanelled for providing diagnostics facilities.

Telemedicine facility for HIV infected patients

1319. SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is planning to provide telemedicine facility to HIV infected patients in remote areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of *modus-operandi* and time-frame for this project?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) Yes The telemedicine facility for HIV infected patients is being set up on a pilot basis in the center of Excellence, Maulana Azad Medical college, New Delhi. The project called - project DISHA - ECHO is a joint Collaboration between university of New Mexico, USA and National AIDS Control Organisation (NACO), Government of India.

The telemedicine facility will link ART centers in remote areas with the Centres of Excellence (COE). The interaction of medical officers of ART centers with specialists at COE will promote

access to better Knowledge and practices that will translate into better care for the HIV patients at these ART centers.

(c) The infrastructure and necessary equipment like telecommunications bridge, polycom cameras etc have been received from University of New Mexico, USA and installed. The staff at MAMC has been trained. The initial seven sites identified to be linked up with this COE and ART centres at Indore, Behrampur, Raipur, Burla, Darbhanga, Baba Saheb Ambedkar Hospital Delhi and Jammu. The project is likely to start in next 2-3 months time.

After evaluation of outcome from this pilot, expansion to other Centres of Excellence and ART centers will be considered.

Death of children due to diarrhoea

1320. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that about 1.5 million children under five die of diarrhoea every year;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) the funds allocated and utilized to stop such deaths; and

(d) the precautionary measures being taken in future to stop such deaths permanently?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) No, as per the Report on causes of death in India 2001-2003, about 1.5 million child deaths (0–4 yrs) occur every year in the country. Diarrhoeal deaths account for 13.8% of the total deaths in this age group.

(b) The question does not arise.

(c) and (d) There is no specific budget for diarrhoeal diseases. States are provided flexibility under NRHM to utilise the budget allocated as per their need.

Government of India is implementing the Management and Control of Diarrhoeal Disease under its Child Health programme, where cases of diarrhoea are provided with ORS and Zinc at health facilities and during home visits through ASHAs and ANMs.

Behaviour Change Communications is also being implemented as part of Information Education and Communication (IEC) to bring about awareness on diarrhoea and other diseases.

An Integrated Disease Surveillance Project (IDSP) is being implemented by the National Institute of Communicable Disease (NICD), Government of India to strengthen surveillance activities and to promote early detection of outbreak and to institute appropriate action for prevention and control of communicable diseases including Acute Diarrhoeal Diseases (ADD).